

\*E-Filed 5/13/09\*

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN JOSE DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

No. 5:06 CR 0424 JW

Plaintiff,

**ORDER GRANTING  
MOTION TO QUASH**

v.

LAN LEE AND YUEFEI GE,

Defendants.

Defendants Lan Lee ("Lee") and Yuefei Ge ("Ge") are charged with conspiracy, economic espionage, and theft of trade secrets from their former employer, NetLogic Microsystems, Inc. ("NetLogic"). *See* Superseding Indictment of Lan Lee and Yuefei Ge, filed September 26, 2007. On April 20, 2009, defendants served NetLogic with a Rule 17(c) subpoena *duces tecum* requesting NetLogic "[t]o deliver to the court or defense the collection of documents referred to by Mr. Cortes on pages 28-31 of the transcript of proceedings before Judge Ware on May 16, 2008, pertaining to his contacts with the FBI, the defendants, and NLM attorneys regarding the alleged theft of trade secrets." Attachment A, Subpoena to Produce Documents or Objects in a Criminal Case, *attached as Exh. 1* to Declaration of Denis R. Salmon, filed April 30, 2009 (the "April 20 Subpoena"). NetLogic moves to quash this subpoena<sup>1</sup> on the grounds that it seeks material which is either

<sup>1</sup> This Court has previously set forth the standard by which it reviews motions to quash. Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Motions to Quash, filed March 18, 2009, at 2-3.

1 inadmissible or which has already been requested and produced.

2 Defendants previously served NetLogic with two similar subpoena requests, which the Court  
3 quashed. *See* Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Motion to Quash Subpoena, filed March  
4 18, 2009, at 7-8 (hereinafter the "March 18 Order") (quashing, among others, Requests 39 and 40).  
5 Those two requests sought records of communications both between NetLogic and law enforcement  
6 (Request 39) and between NetLogic and its attorneys (Request 40). *See* Requests 39 and 40,  
7 *attached as Exh. 2 to Salmon Declaration, supra*. The Court originally rejected the requests based  
8 on their failure to meet the admissibility test set forth in *United States v. Nixon*. 418 U.S. 683, 700  
9 (1974); March 18 Order, *supra*, at 7-8. Defendants now contend that the April 20 Subpoena is their  
10 attempt to "respond[] to the Court's March 18 order by crafting a new subpoena seeking a specific  
11 set of documents identified under oath by Roland Cortes." Opposition to Motion to Quash, filed  
12 May 6, 2009, at 3.

13 The April 20 Subpoena fails to improve on the inadequacies previously noted as to Requests  
14 39 and 40. At the May 16, 2008, hearing referenced in the April 20 Subpoena, defense counsel  
15 quizzed NetLogic's in-house attorney Roland Cortes about the contents of his files, and Mr. Cortes  
16 stated he was in possession of "materials that I have kept regarding interactions with the FBI" and  
17 records of "communications with our attorneys." Transcript of Proceedings Before Judge James  
18 Ware, *attached as Exh. 3 to Salmon Declaration, supra*, at 28-29. Thus, the range of materials  
19 sought in the April 20 Subpoena ultimately differs very little from what Requests 39 and 40  
20 sought—namely, NetLogic's communications with law enforcement and internal attorney-client  
21 communications. Although the April 20 Subpoena is marginally more specific than Requests 39 and  
22 40, and the requested material is likely relevant, Requests 39 and 40 were not quashed for lack of  
23 specificity or lack of relevance. They were quashed for lack of admissibility. *See* March 18 Order,  
24 *supra*, at 7 (describing the impropriety of subpoenaing a broad range of documents in the hope of  
25 gleaning small pieces of information that are admissible either as prior inconsistent statements or as  
26 non-hearsay party admissions).

27 As the Court has previously found that the documents requested in the April 20 Subpoena are

1 not properly sought through a Rule 17(c) subpoena, NetLogic's motion to quash is granted.

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3 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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5 Dated: 5/13/09

6   
7 RICHARD SEEBORG  
8 United States Magistrate Judge  
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ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART MOTION TO QUASH  
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